

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-22 are presently pending in this case, Claims 2, 14, 15, 16, and 17 having been amended and Claims 18-22 added by the present amendment, and Claims 3-6, 9-13, and 15-17 having been withdrawn from consideration.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 3-6, 9-13, and 15-17 were withdrawn from consideration as directed to a non-elected invention; Claim 2 was objected to as including informalities requiring correction; and Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 720,902 to Brau.

In response to the objection to Claim 2, Claim 2 has been amended to correct the noted informality. Accordingly, this ground for objection has been overcome.

In addition to amending Claim 2, Applicants by the present amendment voluntarily amends Claim 14 and withdrawn Claims 15, 16 and 17 so as to solve inconsistency in terminology therein. Also, new Claims 18-22 are added. Applicants respectfully submit that the changes introduced by the present amendment are fully supported by the original description, drawings and claims, and no new matter has been added.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of Claims 1, 2, 7, 8 and 14 because in Applicants' view, the cited prior art fails to disclose each and every limitations of these claim and thus clearly does not anticipate the claimed invention.

In particular, it is respectfully submitted that Brau does not disclose the claimed feature of a "cartridge" as stated in the preamble of Claims 1, 2, 7, 8 and 14. In accordance with M.P.E.P. 2111.02I, any terminology in the preamble that limits the structure of the claimed invention must be treated as a claim limitation, and as stated in the pending claims,

and in light of its ordinary meaning, the term “cartridge” means a replaceable or refillable case containing loose substance and designed to permit ready insertion into a larger apparatus. In contrast, Brau at lines 8-15 discloses an apparatus used by a workman to produce stucco or relief work on walls, ceilings, and other surfaces. The workman may carry the apparatus by placing a strap H on his shoulder, and hold a nozzle D in the proper position (see lines 75-80). As readily understood from Brau, the apparatus of Brau is not a cartridge since the Brau apparatus is not designed to be installed in any larger apparatus but independently used. Furthermore, motivation to modify the apparatus actually taught by Brau into a cartridge is not provided in any cited reference. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that Brau is non-analogous prior art. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the pending active claims are neither anticipated by, nor rendered obvious over, Brau.

Claims 19-21 are newly added and further differentiate Applicants’ liquid cartridge over Brau by explicitly reciting limitations of “fuel” and “fuel cell” instead of “liquid” and “external device”. It is respectfully submitted that the structural limitation of a liquid cartridge having a casing installable in a fuel cell system is novel and unobvious over any references.

Claims 18 and 22 are also newly added to describe a feature described in the last paragraph of page 8 through the top of page 9 of the originally filed specification. Claims 18 and 22 are respectively dependent on Claims 1 and 19, which are believed to define novel and non-obvious subject matter, so that dependent Claims 18 and 22 are also believed to define novel and non-obvious subject matter.

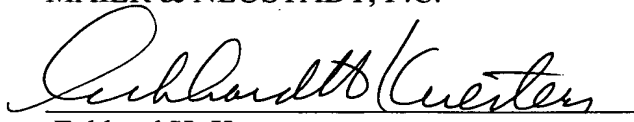
Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above comments, no further issues are believed to be outstanding, and the present application is believed to be

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in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eckhard H. Kuesters', written over a horizontal line.

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